

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/920,873

Examiner

Jennifer Doan

Applicant(s)

ISHII ET AL.

Art Unit

2874

PM

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on March 17, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2,3,6 and 9.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 August 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 120604
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

## **EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The prior art documents submitted by applicant in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 6, 2004, have all been considered and made of record (note the attached copy of form PTO-1449).

### ***Response to Amendment***

2. Applicants' amendment filed on March 7, 2005 has been fully considered and entered.

### ***Reasons for Allowance***

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to disclose or reasonably suggest all the limitations recited in the amended base claims 2 and 3. Specifically, the prior art of record fails to disclose an optical communication module comprising an emission member for emitting a transmission light beam and a connection member for detachably connecting an optical fiber; wherein the emission member and the connection member are arranged such that the transmission light beam intersects with an optical axis of the optical fiber at a predetermined angle to enter an end face of the optical fiber when the optical fiber is connected and the transmission light beam collides with an inner wall of the accommodation part when the optical fiber is detached, and further wherein the accommodation part includes on its inner wall a light scattering member for scattering

the transmission light beam which collides therewith, in combination with the other limitations of claims 2 and 3.

The Kazuyoshi et al. (JP 11-237535) and Mori et al references discussed in the previous office action disclose an optical module including an emission member for emitting a transmission light beam and a connection member for detachably connecting an optical fiber; wherein the connection member comprises a tubular accommodation part for receiving and fixing an end of the optical fiber to be connected. However, neither Kazuyoshi et al. nor Mori et al. disclose an inner wall of the tubular accommodation part having a light scattering member for scattering the transmission light beam.

The prior art documents submitted by applicant in the Information Disclosure Statement, filed on December 6, 2004, also fail to disclose or suggest an optical communication module with all the limitations as defined above.

Claims 2, 3, 6 and 9 are therefore allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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**Conclusion**

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer Doan whose telephone number is (571) 272-2346. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 6:00am to 3:30pm, second Friday off.
5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rodney Bovernick can be reached on (571) 272-2344. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.
6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jennifer Doan

Patent examiner

May 25, 2005